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Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (currently amended): A suturing instrument, comprising:

an elongate body comprising a longitudinal axis, ~~and a distal end, and at least one~~
depression;

~~a distal tip engaged with the distal end of the elongate body, wherein the distal tip is~~
~~rotatable axially comprising at least one rotation pocket, the depression engaged in the rotation~~
~~pocket and allowing rotation of the distal tip about the longitudinal axis of the elongate body;~~

a ~~first~~ needle disposed within the distal tip; and

a needle deployment device disposed within the distal tip, wherein the needle deployment
device drives at least a portion of the first needle ~~generally~~ out of the distal tip.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The suturing instrument of claim 27, wherein the needle
deployment device drives the ~~first~~ needle into tissue and towards the longitudinal axis of the
elongate body.

Claims 29-31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (currently amended): The suturing instrument of claim 27, further comprising a needle
catch configured to receive at least a portion of the ~~first~~ needle.

Claim 33 (canceled)

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Claim 34 (currently amended): The suturing instrument of claim 27, further comprising a suture attached to the ~~first~~ needle.

Claim 35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (currently amended): A method of suturing an opening in a bodily tissue, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a suturing instrument comprising:

an elongate body comprising a longitudinal axis, ~~and a distal end, and at least one depression; and~~

~~a distal tip engaged with the distal end of the elongate body, the distal tip rotatable axially comprising at least one rotation pocket, the depression engaged in the rotation pocket and allowing rotation of the distal tip~~ about the longitudinal axis of the elongate body;

inserting the distal tip through an opening in an outer tissue layer and through the opening in the bodily tissue;

inserting a ~~first~~ needle into the tissue through the distal tip;

deploying at least a portion of the first needle generally outward relative to the longitudinal axis of the elongate body;

moving the ~~first~~ needle through the tissue; and

catching at least a portion of the ~~first~~ needle in a needle catch.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The method of claim 36, further comprising the step of withdrawing the needle catch.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the step of withdrawing the needle catch includes withdrawing the needle catch through the opening in the outer tissue layer.

Claims 39-43 (canceled)

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Claim 44 (new): A suturing instrument, comprising:

- an elongate body comprising a longitudinal axis and a distal end;**
- a distal tip engaged with the distal end of the elongate body, wherein the distal tip is rotatable axially about the longitudinal axis of the elongate body;**
- a needle disposed within the distal tip; and**
- a needle deployment device disposed within the distal tip, wherein the needle deployment device drives the needle generally out of the distal tip,**
- wherein the distal tip comprises at least one rotation pocket and the elongate body comprises at least one depression, the depression engaging the rotation pocket of the distal tip, allowing the distal tip to rotate about the longitudinal axis of the elongate body.**